IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re A	Application of:)	
	1	:	Examiner: W. Chen
SHINGO NOZAWA, et al.)	
		:	Group Art Unit: 2624
Application No.: 09/685,008			
		:	
Filed: October 6, 2000		.)	
		:	
For:	IMAGE ENCODING METHOD)	
	AND APPARATUS	:	January 11, 2005

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the document listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the document listed is enclosed.

Kondo, et al., "Automatic Human Face Detection and Recognition under Non-uniform Illumination", Pattern Recognition, Vol. 32, No. 10, pp. 1707-1718, October 1999.

The foregoing document was cited in the specification and it may be deemed relevant for the reason given therein.

This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal. Since the thus-refiled application has not yet

received a first Office Action, it is believed that the Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Edward A. Kmett

Registration No. 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FORM PTO 1449 (r		MERCE 5	'ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022029.	APPLICATION NO. 09/685,008						
LIST OF	S. DEPARTMENT OF COM ATENT AND TRADEMARK REFERENCES CITED BY	10	APPLICANT SHINGO NOZAWA, et al.							
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS										
-	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT				
	1	OTHER DOCUMENT(S	s) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	<u> </u>	1					
Kondo, et al., "Automatic Human Face Detection and Recognition under Non-uniform Illumination", Pattern Recognition, Vol. 32, No. 10, pp. 1707-1718, October 1999.										
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EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED							

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.